



PRESS RELEASE

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May 13, 2004

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CHILD PORNOGRAPHY COLLECTOR SENTENCED TO 38 MONTHS IN PRISON

TUCSON, Ariz. – The United States Attorney for the District of Arizona announced that on May 12, 2004, Donald Jay Knebel, age 48, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was sentenced to 38 months in prison by United States District Judge John M. Roll in Tucson, Ariz.

Knebel was arrested after a nationwide investigation, known as Operation Landslide, revealed that he had subscribed via the internet to a website geared for collecting and trading child pornography while residing with his parents in Tucson between September, 2001 and January, 2002. Knebel had been previously arrested and convicted in Wisconsin on two counts of Possession of Child Pornography in 1999.

Knebel entered a plea of guilty to the federal Indictment in Arizona, charging Possession of Child Pornography, on September 23, 2003.

Knebel's term of 38 months in prison will be followed by three years of supervised release with strict supervision and sex offender conditions, which prohibits internet access and access to children, among many other restrictions. The three-year supervised release term, which is the maximum allowable term under the law in effect at the time of Knebel's offense, also

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will include up to one year in a community corrections facility, known as a "halfway house," after his release from prison.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Tucson, Arizona. Operation Landslide, the nationwide investigation, was initiated by the Dallas Police Department and the Houston Division of the FBI.

The prosecution was handled by Carin C. Duryée, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson.

CASE NUMBER: CR-03-0287-TUC-JMR
RELEASE NUMBER: 2004-87

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